

FATEH

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PALESTINE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT, FATEH
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3565 lbs Bomb

FATEH WOULD FIGHT US TROOPS, UN FORCES; SETTLEMENT TO BOOST & WIDEN OPERATIONS

Fateh and the Palestinian Revolution will reply by the force of arms to a landing of United States troops or stationing of United Nations forces anywhere in the countries bordering occupied Palestine.

An official of the Palestine National Liberation Movement, Fateh, also said in an exclusive interview that settlement of the crisis in Lebanon is now expected to help increase Fateh's commando activities in northern Palestine which will also cover a wider area than before.

Following is the full text of the interview:

Q. What were the causes of the crisis in Lebanon with the Fedayeen and what triggered it?

A. US-inspired counter-revolutionary forces had been tuning up the plot to strike against the Palestinian Revolution in Lebanon for some time. Encouraged by the fact that the Palestinian Revolution was refraining from involving itself in a side-battle despite a long sequence of unwarranted but premeditated provocations, these counter-revolutionary forces made the first overt attempt to strike against commando presence in Lebanon last April. As you recall, on April 23 this year about 30 people were killed and many more wounded, most of them Lebanese, when peaceful demonstrators took to the streets in Beirut, Tripoli and Bar Elias to express their support for and solidarity with the Palestine Revolution and to denounce all forms of repression, occupation and imperialism. The retreat of these counter-revolutionary forces after the April incidents was a calculated tactical step to get a breathing. In fact these forces spent the next six months preparing for their second assault against the Palestinian Revolution which has been able to stand on its own feet and threaten Israel, the base of US imperialism in the area. They paved the ground for the plot with a series of suspicious moves, including revocation of the agreement reached in the wake of the April upheaval, the Nahr el-Barid camp incident, the Washington remarks expressing concern about "any [not Israeli] threat" to Lebanon, the rocket attack on the Beirut offices of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the six-day siege at Majdal Silim of a group of Palestinian commandos heading to struggle for the liberation of their homeland. The counter-revolutionary forces put the US-plot to stab the Palestinian Revolution in the back to execution on Oct. 21 with the torture of several members of the Majdal Silim group and the arrest and humiliation of the rest. The Palestinian Revolution could not sit by and allow the plot to be carried to its end. Nor could the Arab people, including the brotherly people of Lebanon.

Q. What happened after Majdal Silim and what did the commandos try to achieve?

A. The prompt and natural reaction of the Palestinian, Lebanese and other Arab masses was exactly as anticipated by the Palestinian Revolution -- dismay over the US-plot and a toll to protect the revolution. These were expressed in both Lebanon and elsewhere in many ways, ranging from protests to barricades. As far as the Fedayeen were concerned, their sole purpose in entering Lebanese villages was to maintain their supply routes open to northern Palestine and to defend the right of the Palestinian Revolution to use all Arab land bordering occupied Palestine as a springboard against the common enemy. The commandos had absolutely no intention to "occupy" any inch of Lebanese territory or infringe on Lebanon's sovereignty and independence. To answer your question directly, what the Palestinian Revolution tried to achieve was, in order of priority:

1. To foil the plot itself

2. To preserve the Palestinian Revolution's right to freedom of movement, whether in commando warfare against the enemy or amongst the Palestinian masses ex-

iled to Lebanon.

In other words also we do not intervene in the internal affairs of the Arab countries but we will not stand helplessly before anyone who tries to block the path of our revolution.

Q. How was the crisis ended and what were the circumstances which prompted Fateh to negotiate?

A. The crisis ended with a simple settlement reached in Cairo under US auspices. We went to Cairo from a position of strength and not of weakness. We did not go to Cairo with the intention of toppling a government or a ruler. Our sole aim was to preserve and escalate our revolution to liberate Palestine. We negotiated with the commander of the army but we refused the presence of any political personality.

Q. What is meant by "simple settlement" and what are your anticipations?

A. By simple settlement I mean it is easy to reconcile Lebanon's sovereignty and independence with the legality of the Palestinian commando action. Both were never contradictory as the counter-revolutionary forces try to contend particularly that the cause is one, the enemy is one and the destiny is one.

With regards the settlement, we hope it will be followed faithfully. We had an experience with Jordan on Nov. 4, 1968, when Jordan massed 16,000 troops and a massacre followed. We lost 65 martyrs among the Fedayeen and the people. The Jordanian army lost 57 troops. The Jordanian 200,000 troops had been massed and had it not been for our restraint, four to five thousand martyrs would have fallen. The Jordanian authorities have not spared the revolution. They resort to a show of power each time that they feel a little stronger... There were incidents in Jordan before Lebanon... Conditions in Lebanon are similar to those in Jordan. They are critical conditions. We are vigilant

(Continued on p. 2)

Fateh Commandos Wreck Israeli Potash Plant

Fateh commandos wrecked a large section of the Israeli potash plant at Sodom, south of the Dead Sea in a daring rocket attack Thursday night, Nov. 6.

A military spokesman of the Palestinian Armed Struggle Command made the announcement Nov. 7. He said the Fateh freedom fighters also mortared the Neot Hakikar settlement south of the Dead Sea, destroying vital installations.

During the same night, other Fateh units killed and wounded several enemy troops when they ambushed a tracked vehicle and a military jeep in the Beit Youssef and Shuwayer areas respectively, both in the northern Jordan Valley.

A Tel Aviv spokesman admitted that Czech-made Katyusha rockets and mortar shells were fired at the potash plant at Sodom on the Dead Sea and at Neot Hakikar. As usual he said the rockets and mortar shells "caused no damage or casualties."

On Nov. 5, a special task force of Fateh commandos succeeded in placing timed incendiary bombs in the central storehouse of the cotton factory in Dehota, west of Sodom and southeast of Beersheba. A huge fire erupted and extended to the adjacent storehouses. Enemy material losses were described as extremely high. Flames could still be seen at the site the following day.

FATEH WOULD FIGHT US TROOPS, UN FORCES; SETTLEMENT...

and on the alert. In Jordan we are in a hyena cave: we sleep with an eye opened all the time.

Another anticipation is that we expect attempts to be made to undermine the simple settlement so as to involve us in a war. The United States is conspiring to have the revolution fight out additional side battles in Beirut and Amman. This really means that the revolution is strong and capable or else they would not be attempting to instigate side battles. Hadn't the revolution tipped the scales we would not have been confronted with such reaction. Israeli air raids against our bases in Jordan have become daily routine. Lately a bomb weighing 3565 lbs. was dropped on one of our centers, which is something new. But our men have become immune... Ahead of us lies a long struggle and great responsibilities. But, at the same time, our cause is so strong that it is not easy to strike against it. We

Editorial

FATEH'S VIEW OF THE ENEMY

Regrettably, the Zionist propaganda machinery has, effectively succeeded in convincing the world at large that it cannot afford any defeat -- whether in a side battle that would have adverse psychological effects on its own adherents or in a major battle that would liquidate the Zionist set-up altogether in occupied Palestine. And inasmuch as the Zionist soldier's courage and fighting spirit was underestimated before 1948, his stature was magnified inordinately after June 1967.

Fateh distinguishes between the Jew and the Zionist, between the Jewish soldier and the colonialist Zionist military institution in Palestine.

Fateh has adopted a stand which should convince a non-Zionist Jew in Israel that Palestinians are not, as the Zionists would have him believe, "blood-thirsty gangs" who want to kill him and throw his wife and children into the sea.

As a human being, the non-Zionist Jew in occupied Palestine does not believe in war except from the angle of self-defense.

The target of the Palestine National Liberation Movement, Fateh, is Zionism and the Zionist structure in Palestine. It is definitely not the Jew.

Fateh's view of the enemy extends to include also the Zionist social structure. Until now there has been no real assimilation or fusion in Zionist Israeli society. It is only a coalition of interests based on facing the danger as impressed by Zionism.

All that the Arab Jews and European Jews have in common is that they feel persecuted and have to defend themselves, nothing more or less. Such a conglomeration cannot be a viable human society.

Moreover, the Eastern Jews are generally treated as second-class citizens. There is a clear distinction between them and the European Jews [the Ashkenazim], and harmony between the two communities is uncertain and difficult, even groundless. The European Jews are always first-class citizens enjoying all the privileges and high posts. The rift and communal division in the depth of the Zionist society cannot be hidden from the world for long.

The Arab countries can declare officially that they are prepared to receive back all their Jewish nationals who have emigrated to Palestine and to accept their return as full-fledged citizens as they were before.

Our success in making known to the world our principles and our true humanistic position toward the Jew as a human being will certainly lead to the collapse of the colonialist Zionist military institution in Palestine. It will certainly prompt the Jewish soldier -- who is now acting under the influence of a false conviction that if he does not fight and shed Arab blood he is bound to be killed -- to desert the Zionist set-up.

How would Fateh react to the persecution of a Jew within or outside occupied Palestine?

The answer is clear and unequivocal. Since Fateh welcomes coexistence with the Jews after the liquidation of the Zionist set-up and the establishment of a unitary, democratic, non-sectarian Palestinian state, it follows that Fateh will stand by any persecuted Jew and will be prepared to give him a rifle and fight by his side.

are growing in strength daily because of our merger with the masses and the merger of the masses with us....

Q. What are the guarantees that made you accept a settlement for the recent crisis?

A. Our only guarantees lie in the active support of the Palestinian, Lebanese and other Arab masses as well as in our ability to foil any conspiracy by our force of arms.

Q. What is Fateh's attitude toward Lebanese sovereignty?

A. Lebanese sovereignty was never and will never be under question by Fateh or the Palestinian Revolution. We want a strong and sovereign Lebanon that can stand with us and by our side against the common enemy. Israel's expansionist designs against Lebanon have become common knowledge. The Fedayeen want to see the Lebanese flag high on all parts of Lebanon as much as they want to struggle to see the Palestinian flag high on liberated Palestinian soil. The sovereignty of Lebanon is threatened only by Israel and its chief ally, the United States of America, which has gone as far as to officially authorize its nationals to enlist in the Zionist army while maintaining their U.S. citizenship. How can the United States government be the guardian of Lebanese sovereignty and independence against United States citizens serving in Israel's armed forces?

Q. What is Lebanon's attitude toward the commando movement?

A. Popular support for the commando movement among the Lebanese masses was and still is our main asset and safeguard. It is a true expression of the unity of purpose between our peoples. The US-inspired counter-revolutionary forces who were used as a cat's claw to scratch against the Palestinian Revolution have failed to force the Lebanese to choose between two alternatives -- allegiance to Lebanon or allegiance to the Palestine cause. Both allegiances are complementary.

Q. Did the crisis affect our operations inside occupied territory?

A. Of course it did. Any side battle will affect our operations against the enemy. This is why we believed and continue to believe, now more than ever before, that guns, all guns, should be directed against the common Zionist enemy.

Q. Do you believe that the new settlement will lead to an increase in Fateh's activities against the enemy?

A. We cannot possibly approve anything that will limit our efforts against Zionism. We hope in the light of the recent settlement, that our commando operations will increase and be launched from a wider front than before. This is applicable to all areas bordering Israel and not only to the Lebanese portion.

Q. Do you expect an Israeli raid on south Lebanon?

A. There were Israeli raids on south Lebanon as well as on Beirut itself way before the recent settlement. The threat of such raids against Lebanon and/or any other Arab country will cease only when Zionist presence is ended altogether in this part of the world. Chances of ending this presence are always greater when we are united and when all our guns point to one direction -- the common enemy.

Q. Chances of a landing of United States troops in Lebanon and the stationing of UN forces on Lebanon's southern borders with Israel have been raised more than once. What would Fateh's reaction be if this were to happen?

A. We refuse any kind of foreign intervention that aims to interfere with our struggle against Zionism. We shall reply to any U.S. troop landing in Lebanon or any other Arab country bordering occupied Palestine by the force of arms. As to the stationing of U.N. forces on the borders of our occupied homeland, we shall ask all the friendly nations not to participate in these forces because such forces will be to defend Israel and not Lebanon or any other Arab country. We shall also fight such forces as hostile forces protecting our Zionist enemy.



454 PASC Operations Launched in October; Fateh Blasts in Haifa Are a Warning Only

A total of 454 military operations were undertaken against the enemy in occupied Palestine during the month of October by the eight commando organizations affiliated to the Palestinian Armed Struggle Command (PASC). This is against 429 operations in September and 480 in August.

PASC includes Fateh, the Palestine Liberation Army, the Popular Forces, the Sa'eqa, the Arab Liberation Front and three splinter groups of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

The 454 operations in October, the overwhelming majority of which were carried out by Fateh, resulted in the loss or damage of 24 military vehicles; 76 gun and machinegun emplacements; 34 bridges and railway cutters; 58 different installations and 21 water and power lines.

PASC's military spokesman said enemy casualties were high but gave no numbers. He listed commando casualties at 19 killed and 17 injured, against 33 killed and 45 injured in September.

Following is a brief roundup of Fateh's major operations during October:

October 2: Blowing up of Eilat-Haifa and Haifa-Tel Aviv pipelines near Hadera in Central Palestine. The pipeline blasts came some five hours after Fateh blew up a nearby railway bridge between Binyamina and Zickron Yaakov. In another raid in the same region, oil and water pumps were damaged in Kefar Hassidim, south of Haifa.

October 5: Blowing up of the 18-inch oil pipeline linking Tel-Aviv and Eilat port at a point south of the Dead Sea.

October 6: Destruction of several houses and vehicles and killing and wounding of many Zionist settlers (29 by Israeli count), when Fateh explosive charges went off in a market place in Afula, in northern occupied Palestine. The explosive charges were in retaliation for an Israeli commando raid on southern Lebanese villages on Friday night Oct. 3. Three Lebanese civilians were kidnapped by the Israelis in the raid. One (Mohammed Khrayat) was murdered on the spot and two (Mahmoud 'el-Haj and Hussein Salameh) were repatriated through the Lebanese Red Cross on Oct. 19 after 16 days of interrogation and humiliation in Zionist jails.

October 7-8: Violent four-hour night confrontation battle with the enemy near Swaymah post in the Jordan Valley. Five Fateh commandos killed after heroic battle forcing enemy reinforcements to retreat.

October 12: Fateh guerrillas shell car assembly plant in occupied Nazareth, blow up bridge near Gaza and mortar enemy posts and settlements in Jordan Valley and south of Mt. Hermon.

October 13: Attack on Tei el-furs settlement in the Golan Heights.

October 14: Mortar attack on the Potash factory south of the Dead Sea and on Yatfatah settlement in the southern Negev. Planting of time bombs in a leather factory in Turkmaniyeh is shelved.

October 16: Attack on an advanced enemy ambush in Tallet al-Thiabi in the northern Jordan Valley. Mortar attack on Ma'oz Hayim settlement.

October 17: Heavy mortar attack against a concentration of enemy vehicles and soldiers north of Shuwayer settlement in the central Jordan Valley.



October 22-23: Four Fateh bomb blasts in 24 hours rock residential Haifa. Many killed and wounded (20 by Israeli count). Explosions in apartment blocks meant as Fateh warning against continuation of Zionist policy to blow up the houses of civilian Palestinians in occupied homeland.

October 23: Fateh commandos score direct hits against potash factory in Sodom area south of the Dead Sea for second time in less than 10 days. Successful attack also against enemy headquarters in Mindassa in the northern Jordan Valley.

October 26: Eight-man enemy foot patrol wiped out in Um Touts. Rocket attacks on Tel Ahulsous outpost and other enemy positions in Maghtas. Enemy post in Turkmaniyeh is overrun, destroyed, and its members killed. All these are in the Jordan Valley.

October 27: Rocket and mortar attacks on Tirat Zir and al-Auda settlements in the northern Jordan Valley.

October 28: Nevi Ur, Dagania Beth, Ashdot Yaakov and Maoz Hayim settlements mortared.

Arabs Describe Israeli Tortures of Commandos

LYDDA - Several Palestinian witnesses have said before a military court here that they saw suspected Palestinian Commandos being beaten with sticks and hanging by their hands from a door lintel while in custody.

The witnesses were testifying before Lydda military court on Oct. 23 in connection with a point of order whether or not to accept statements by several Palestinians charged with using a blast in a supermarket in occupied Jerusalem earlier this year.

The accused said their statements to the Israeli police should not be allowed as evidence, since they were extracted under pressure and threats of torture.

Subhi Sa'ad-eddin Ghoshli, 40, an east Jerusalem physician awaiting trial on

charges of "subversive activity," told the court that military investigators took him up to the fourth floor of the Jerusalem police building "to show me what happens to persons who do not cooperate."

He said that he saw several Palestinians being beaten and one hanging by his hands from a door frame.

He said he could not tell if the man's feet were touching the floor.

Ghoshli also testified he saw Ya'acub Oudeh, one of the arrested in a state of semi-consciousness.

Two other witnesses made the same testimony as Ghoshli.



Ashbal Attend Summer Camp in Artek

A delegation representing the Youth Organization of the Palestine National Liberation Movement, FATEH, participated in the Soviet Pioneers and Komsomol Summer Camp held in Artek this summer.

Fifteen Palestinian children from the FATEH Ashbal camps together with two of their leaders spent a month at the camp on the invitation of the Government of the USSR within its program of international understanding and brotherhood.

The Palestinian delegation successfully participated in most activities of the Summer Camp which was attended by delegations from over 40 nations.

The Camp featured a special conference for delegation leaders to exchange experiences in youth upbringing. At this conference the leader of the FATEH delegation summarized the history of the youth movement in occupied Palestine since the 1930's and its growth and development within the Palestine National Liberation Movement, FATEH.

The youth organization within FATEH was organized after the Battle of Karameh on March 21, 1968. It began with youth camps near the refugee camps and drew to it children between the ages of 8 and 17.

The participants in the camp are divided into two main groups: Ashbal and Youths. The age range of the Ashbal is from 8 to 14 while

that for the Youths is from 14 to 17. The Ashbal are divided further into three subgroups: Beginners (from 8 to 10); Second Ashbal (from 10 to 12), and First Ashbal (from 12 to 14).

The youth camps, which are permanent, accept children after their school time. The programs at the camps are geared to complement, not replace, the programs of the existing educational institutions. Both programs help create a generation that is ready for the era of revolution the Palestinians are launching to liberate their homeland.

The children in the camps are trained to be good citizens and to be fit spiritually, physically, socially and psychologically.

To provide the necessary care for the Palestinian youngsters, the camps' leaders study the social background of the children's communities and base their programs on their findings.

Ten different programs are offered by every camp. The first such program is a "National Training" program aiming at the development of the Palestinian national spirit and faith in the inevitability of the liberation of Palestine. It also aims at strengthening the attachment of the participants and their loyalty to Palestine as well as deepening their knowledge of the history and geography of Palestine. The program further teaches the youths the stra-



tegy and tactics of the Zionist enemy and shows the relationship and unity of interests between Zionism and Imperialism.

The second program is an "International Training" program which teaches the methods of imperialism and its tactics in oppressing the developing countries. It provides information about the peoples of the third world and their struggle for liberation. It also reviews the struggle of the peoples of countries that have practiced guerrilla warfare and liberation wars.

The third program deals with "Health Training." It provides an elementary study of contagious diseases, their causes, methods of spreading, and their remedial methods. It also covers first-aid and attempts to propagate healthy habits and ending harmful ones.

"Social Training," is the fourth training program. This program aims at creating the cooperative spirit among the participants and provides them with opportunities to practice common social services in health, cultural and recreational fields. It also teaches moral principles, integrity, honesty, discipline, as well as simplicity and modesty in private and public life.

The fifth program is a "Physical Training" one. It develops and preserves the physical fitness of the Palestinian children and polishes the useful physical talents of every participant.

"Scout Training" is another program of Ashbal FATEH. The program provides the Ash-

bal with opportunities to get used to wild life and investigative journeys, develop their observational abilities, and study the scout arts theoretically and practically.

Since armed struggle is the only way to liberate Palestine, a "Military Training" program is also provided. This program prepares a generation which is capable of fighting for achieving national liberation. It also provides a study of the military arts of strategy and tactics as well as the use of all kinds of arms needed in guerrilla warfare.

"Scientific Training" is another program for the participants. This program teaches the youths the importance of scientific investigation and research and develops their ability to use a scientific approach in solving their problems.

The ninth program deals with "Art Training." It aims at developing a taste for the arts among the Ashbal. It polishes and develops their artistic talents and teaches them Palestinian folkloric dances and songs.

The final program covers "Handicraft Training". It helps the youngsters choose a suitable profession and develops their handicraft abilities.

Every camp is headed by a central committee which carries out the above training according to a long-term general program. Each camp has a social director and the instruction is provided by volunteer members of FATEH.



ZIONIST SAPPERS BLOW UP 200 HALHOU HOUSES AND LEAVE 2,000 PALESTINIANS HOMELESS

HALHOU - About tens of houses in this occupied town were blown up Oct. 24 by military forces of the Zionist settler-state of Israel, making over 2000 Palestinians homeless.

Witnesses said the homeless Palestinians defied Zionist orders to leave the area.

Israel officially recognized the blowing up of "20 houses" only and said "40 old uninhabited stone shacks" collapsed under the impact of the blast but had not been "intentionally blown up" (Herald Tribune, Oct. 30).

Patrick Brogan of the London Times wrote in the Oct. 27 edition: "... There were 60 or 70 houses destroyed in Halhoul. I counted them. This morning (Oct. 26), the people were digging through the rubble for their clothes, their food, their furniture. They were not given the time to clear their houses before they were blown up... The people are terrified..."

Other eyewitnesses said occupation forces had blown

Balfour Declaration

LONDON - Police guarded the Israeli embassy in Kensington Palace Gardens Nov. 2 as hundreds of Palestinian, Arab and other sympathizing demonstrators marched from Hyde Park Corner in protest against the 52nd anniversary of the Balfour Declaration.

Traffic was held up in Kensington High Street as the demonstrators passed by the Zionist embassy which has recently unleashed its armed bands against Palestinian and Arab organizations and supporters in London.

Noori Bahrami, 27, president of the General Union of Arab Students, has been slashed in the face and stomach while walking in the street. He had been taken to hospital.

Student Penny Lydon, 20, who is secretary of the Friends of Palestine association, was attacked by three men outside West Kensington underground station. She was bruised about the face and body.

Burhan Chalabi, 24 year-old Arab student, said his car brakes had been disconnected. Luckily, he found out when the car was moving slowly and avoided disaster.

And Miss Manuela Sykes, a committee member of the Council for the Advancement of Arab and British Understanding, was threatened with death by telephone after speaking at a pro-Palestine meeting.

up all the houses within a one-kilometer (1,000-yard) radius of the scene of a commando attack on a patrol in the town on Oct. 24.

Up to Oct. 27 more than 200 houses had been blown up, they said, and they quoted Israeli Premier Golda Meir as threatening during a visit to Halhoul to have the remaining houses in the town of 10,000 people blown up after the Israeli election.

An Israeli military spokesman said only the houses had been blown up after an attack on a patrol in which one officer was killed and two wounded.

But eyewitnesses said, twelve Israeli officers and soldiers, including the assistant military governor of the Hebron district had been killed.

The people of Halhoul were

refusing to leave despite mass arrests and Israeli intimidation.

Witnesses said Gen. Moshe Dayan had visited the town during the demolitions a fact confirmed in Tel Aviv and told the homeless inhabitants they must either go to Jordan or to a camp in the Negev desert near Beersheba.

But the homeless people had refused to leave Halhoul.

The Palestinian Red Crescent accused Israel of violating human rights at Halhoul in a cable sent to the international committee of the Red Cross, and appealed for investigation and intervention.

Ernest Koch, ICRC representative in Amman, told Reuters that the Red Cross commission in Israel had already visited Halhoul. The ICRC does not publish the results of its investigations.

The Israelis have used the technique of blowing up houses where commandos are alleged to have been sheltered as a method of deterring Palestinians in the occupied homeland from helping commandos harassing the occupying forces.

Three entire villages on heights dominating the main Tel Aviv-Jerusalem road were razed to the ground soon after the 1967 June war and since then scores of houses have been blown up in occupied territory.

The Palestine Armed Struggle Command said on Oct. 27 that the Oct. 24 attack on the Israeli patrol was the work of a single commando, Mahmoud Hamdan, who was later besieged in a house at Halhoul by Israeli troops.

He fought till his machine gun ran out of ammunition, then kept his besiegers off with hand grenades

until the Israelis destroyed the house with artillery fire and Hamdan was captured, suffering from head wounds.

In Gaza the occupation forces blew up eight houses in the quarter where an Israeli was shot Oct. 29.

Occupation army sappers started demolition operations soon after a curfew was imposed on the Gaza market area after Shlomo Le-vine, 47, was shot dead.

The eight Gaza buildings included houses, shops and stores.

Elsewhere two houses were blown up by the occupation forces on Oct. 26, following the arrest of their owners. One house was demolished in Bethlehem and the other in Beit Furik in the Hebron area.

PRISON TERMS SHOWER

GAZA - Israeli occupation troops continue to pass daily life sentences on Palestinians in a vain effort to quell resistance.

On Oct. 27, an Israeli military court in occupied Gaza jailed for life two Palestinians for laying mines under Israeli army vehicles last April, injuring more than 20 Israeli soldiers. The prosecutor told the court that Suleiman Girar, 35, and Salim Awad Abu Niyad, 28, both of Arish, were engaged to recruit members for Fatah.

Earlier on October 23, the same Israeli military court sentenced a 16 year old Palestinian boy Yehya Alban, for 8 years for allegedly leading a "teenage group of commandos."

The court was told that the group - formed by seven Arab friends in January - had no military training and had armed themselves with hand grenades salvaged from abandoned Egyptian positions in the Israeli-held Gaza Strip.

They then lay in wait for Israeli military vehicles, according to the prosecution.

Another member of the group was jailed for four years, and a third for one year. They are both 16.

The four others were still at large, believed to have escaped to Jordan.

Seven other Palestinians were jailed for life with hard labor, by Gaza's military court on Oct. 21 also for armed resistance. They are Yousef Ahmed Abdul-Hadi Hussein, 42, Abdallah Rizi, 25, Issa Hamada, 37, Hussein El-bakhtini, 37, Abdul Khader Elyan, 40, Kassem Salem Abu Nagy, 33, and Abdulla Suliman Abdul Jawad, 33.

In Haifa, two "Israeli Arabs" (i.e. Palestinians in occupied Palestine since

Jerusalem's Governor House Hit by Grenade

JERUSALEM - At least 60 Palestinians were detained for questioning here Nov. 1 after a grenade was hurled at the military government building.

The grenade exploded harmlessly in the forecourt of the building in the main street of the occupied Old City.

Occupation authorities refused to comment on whether the incident was connected with Sunday's 52nd anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, by which the British Mandate "declared its sympathy" toward the establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine.

PRISON TERMS SHOWER

1948) got nine-month terms Oct. 22 from a civil court for having gone to Jordan in August 1967! They are Adel Gamal, 35, and Abd Nasser, 37, both of Acra. The president of the court told them he was passing a light sentence because "many Arabs thought definite peace had come following the (1967) conflict."

According to the Daily Telegraph staff correspondent in Jerusalem, 84 such "Israeli Arabs" were held in North Palestine on suspicion of being responsible for the recent Fatah explosions in Haifa, "whilst an undisclosed number of Arabs are being held on charges of sabotage acts."

US Zionist Propagandists Rap New Left

SAN FRANCISCO - Two American Zionist propagandists from California launched a bitter attack recently against the New Left and all that it stands for.

Speaking Oct. 16 before members of the American Jewish Committee's San Francisco chapter at Fairmont Hotel luncheon meeting, Neil C. Sandberg and Rabbi Joseph Asher rapped the New Left for taking on a decidedly anti-Zionist tone.

Rabbi Asher criticized young Zionists for being sympathetic to the New Left and for being "duped" by its "falsehoods" and "destructiveness."

Sandberg said many young New Left people in California ought to learn more "of the socialism of Israel."

Sandberg added "blacks should hear of Israeli aid to underdeveloped countries in Africa!"

Grim reports of repression in Israel-occupied lands

By E. C. Hodgkin

*The author, who is Foreign Editor of *The Times*, has just returned from Israel-occupied Jordan where he revisited places and people he has known for more than 30 years. In this article he records his verdict on the Israel occupation, which he describes as "profoundly depressing". Among the places he saw was the village of Halhul, between Bethlehem and Hebron, which is now reported to have been completely demolished by the Israeli army, one of whose lieutenants had been killed in a bomb incident.*

The Arabs on the West Bank and in the Gaza strip have now lived under Israeli occupation for nearly two and a half years. It is not to be expected that such an occupation will be popular; but what surprises me is the extent with which the Israelis are hated everywhere by all sections of the population.

The mood is perhaps similar to that in occupied France at the beginning of 1942. The invaders' hopes of acceptance, and the invaded people's hopes of a quick and painless deliverance. Repression is severe, and acts of resistance are multiplying. Each adds fuel to the other. As yet the stage of massive reprisals and collective punishments has not been reached. But eventually, if things go on as they are, it will be.

It has been suggested that Israel's occupation of Arab lands is something different—the occupiers more benign, or the invaded more resigned. This is not so. The Israeli attitude is as determined as the Russians in Czechoslovakia to crush all opposition and act as a better nation than the measured to do. Measures currently being used include:

Deporation. About 90 Palestinians, as far as I can calculate, have so far been pushed over the border into Jordan. Most are people who were prominent in West Bank life—the parents of Ramallah, for example; judges, lawyers, doctors, teachers, and so on.

Destruction of houses. On the latest visit to Halhul tally, 7,140 Arab houses have been blown up. This includes entire villages which have been destroyed for security reasons, but also in the majority of cases the houses were blown up because somebody—suspected of conniving with guerrilla activity—was living in them. What particularly angers Arabs is that destruction often takes place as soon as a suspect is carried off, so that he is not allowed to be charged or even convicted. Nor does it matter if he is not the owner of the house, or if he is guilty, innocent, or even over the explosives go in. Demolition of buildings is a lesser irritant, though the conversion of the brand-new houses in east Jerusalem to police headquarters is a constant affront.

LIGHT SENTENCE

Imprisoned suspects are frequently held for months at a time without trial, without their lawyers being known, and without lawyers or relatives being able to visit the condemned. Eventually they come before an Israeli military court and have the services of an Israeli advocate. Sentences are very harsh. In one case, before I left Nablus, for example, it was reported in the Jerusalem Post that four members of a "terrorist" cell had been sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment to life imprisonment; one aged 16, to 30 years, and one aged 16, to 25 years. What the news did not report was that the sentencing sentence of the 16-year-old, the president of the court apparently remarked that in view of the boy's youth and the fact that he had been captured he would not be charged with murder and that sentence would be imposed. It was not clear whether this was meant seriously or as a joke. Sentences of this order are repeated daily.

Torture. A common belief in the occupied areas—held by all residents, not just by the Arabs—is that anyone suspected of being a guerrilla or organization or helpful in any way is tortured as a matter of routine, and there is a vast body of evidence to support this. The methods reported to be used follow the pattern familiar from Algeria, Hungary, and elsewhere, including electrical stimulation, wet as every form of heating. Torture is said to be carried out in the interrogation centres at the Russian Com-

THIS ARTICLE APPEARED
IN THE LONDON TIMES
OF OCT. 28. LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR ON THIS
AND OPPOSITE PAGE
WERE PUBLISHED BY
THE TIMES IN THE
FOLLOWING WEEK.

sound in Jerusalem, Sarafand camp, and Aqaba, Jordan.

Curfews. These are a weapon of authority in very difficult circumstances. They can however be applied as a disciplinary measure, or as punishments, and the Israelis prefer to use them when possible. The example of Salat in Jordan is instructive. It is fresh in everyone's memory. This is a community of settled tribesmen, each family living in a small box-like house, with a single window, and straggling village that rockets were installed, two of which fell in Jerusalem last night. The Israeli authorities had come down with the idea that some of the villagers must have known what was going on. So a total curfew was imposed on the village, and it was forced to leave their house or open a window. As the latrines are outside the houses, as is the case in Palestine in August, the result was plain to see. Outside, the stock of the villagers died or was requisitioned. A modified curfew persists for some weeks.

Passes and permits. Permits are required for most movement, and for travel in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to visit Jerusalem with its surrounding villages, which is half the Arab population of Palestine is dispersed in the outside world; the separation of families is now greater than ever before, and the fate of the separated or permanently much more difficult.

Naturally, the Israelis say that everything is the fault of the PLO. They would only stop their raiding and bombing there would be no raiding and bombing. It seems impossible to expect the Palestinian Arabs not to react to an alien military occupation as other people would react. In fact, indeed, they have a stronger reason to do so than they have to fear that occupation is only the preliminary to destruction.

I most confess that when going around on the West Bank I found it difficult to accept the conclusion that this is Israel's frontier. The Jordan River as historically and strategically a natural frontier. So the new frontier is not on the West Bank, the new buildings look like mushrooms in and around Jerusalem, the new military roads and communications are all there.

These are evidence of a people determined to stay where they are. The only inconveniences are the presence of either 100,000 or 650,000 on the West Bank and another 450,000 in the Gaza Strip. As it would be much simpler if they were not there, every effort is being made to persuade them to go. The most important ones are to get them those with education and authority.

Those who are to go are to be given, not of peace, at least of moderate intensified suffering on both sides. Otherwise there is going to be a long and bitter struggle.

All occupations are bad. Power slips more and more into the hands of extremists—the big stick on one side and the big bomb on the other. That is what is happening in most of Palestine. On the whole the Arabs there used to be probably the most docile, intelligent, and moderate of their people. They used to live and prosper in the land which has long been their home. It is a tragic that they are now being persecuted into a new diaspora by the armies and people of Israel.

schools in Nablus and one in Jenin (run by the United Nations) were closed down during my visit.

Moreover, all government schools in the annexed Jerusalem area have been compelled to change textbooks and examinations so that the children start learning to read with such sentiments as "We are the chosen people".

The prospect of their children having to follow an alien system of education—or having no education at all—is enough to make even the most patriotic think about throwing in their hand and leaving.

Simple measures are used to speed the departure of simpler people. During the Bedouin curfew, for example, the villages were sealed off from the rest of the world to join King Hussein in Jordan, military transport was available to take them to the border. Various bribes have been offered to encourage the emigration.

There is no need to evacuate the whole million; trimmed to half or even three-quarters of its present size, the population would be of little value.

A curfew is a weapon like this: it is probably depressing, and it is more depressing than ever when related to a state so idealistic—where its own people are not allowed to leave.

Many people simply believe that "it can't happen there". This may not be partly for the double standard with which the occupation is often charged by the Arabs. If there are demonstrations in Pragia against the Russian invasion, say, you say "It is not our business".

If there are reports of torture in Greece you insist on investigations; if bombs go off in Athens you say "It is not our business, and cheer"; if South Africa keeps "suspected terrorists" in gaol for months without trial you protest. But similar things can happen all the time, and the world remains indifferent.

USE OF FORCE

This is a main reason for the growth and persistence of the resistance. The assumption that Palestine Arabs are not like most other Arabs makes it too—that whatever other countries, and particularly Britain and the United States, may think about the West Bank, it is not to be taken seriously by Israel.

Indeed, they have a stronger reason to do so than they have to fear that occupation is only the preliminary to destruction.

There seems to be virtual unanimity in the occupied territories that the only help is self-help, and that this means violence. But there are many different ideas about what the ultimate aim should be. Some feel that the occupation has such an appalling impact on the people that almost any price is to end it. Others see it as a bargain which sent the Israelis back to their pre-1967 borders would solve most of the problems. The price would be as vulnerable as ever, and all title to the other conquered territories would have to be given up.

There is however a strong argument for the idea of a handover of the occupied territories to the United Nations for a transitional period.

This is the only way to end the occupation, not of least because those with education and authority.

This covers most of the deportees (who, it must be assumed, will be the most fanatical, and therefore those who find life intolerable either because they have little work and therefore no money, or simply because there is a limit to the extent of the day to day pressures of occupation).

All societies of the population will be particularly about their children. What is going to happen to the Arab school? All schools have been threatened with closure if pupils strike or demonstrate against the occupation authorities. Two

Letters to the Editor

Common knowledge

From Professor John Carswell

Sir,—I very much appreciate your facts about what is going on from day to day in the occupied territory. These are completely acceptable. I have however a desire to add something throughout the Middle East, but frankly I have not been able to do so because they reported elsewhere in the same newspaper. Every attempt to make this sort of information available to the public seems to get quashed at once, as Arab propaganda. Does one hope that, for once, it may be possible that the Arabs do have a case?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN CARSWELL

38 Carlton Place, S.W.1 Oct. 29.

Reports in Britain

From Mr. Michael Wall

Sir,—In this year I made my visit to Jordan, Israel and the West Bank or Jordan. Your Foreign Editor's report on Israeli behaviour in these occupied territories, I am sure, confirms what I heard and saw myself.

It has been worrying that so few of the facts of the Israeli occupation have appeared in the British press. It has been alarming that the correspondence on the subject has been so one-sided. I regret the Times must be inclined to have written that the Israelis have been firm in their determination to rule over the Arab population and that the occupation is being tolerated with good will by the majority of the population. The truth is entirely different.

It can be argued that the Israelis have an obligation to tell the truth, to allow all to see, to all over, to all over opposition and determine any popular support for the Palestinian resistance movement by having an even better action.

But it is indefensible that the facts should not be published. Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL WALL

41 Lamont Road, S.W.1 Oct. 29.

Similar reports

From Mr. J. M. Jefferson

Sir,—I have been asked to have been abroad for bringing back from their Middle East travels similar facts and figures of interest to your readers. Your Foreign Editor today, his "turnover article" is very encouraging. It may also be of interest to your readers to believe that, though the Arabs may be their own worst enemies, those who sympathize with them are not. The Arab predicament is not as foolish, nor as unprincipled, nor as ignorant of the facts as the majority of the volume of counter-propaganda suggests.

This raises the question of whether the Israeli army and the settlers and the Zionist movement in general, are not victims of their own propaganda. By this I mean that they are the facts and the hatred which results, thus sow the seeds of their own destruction.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. JEFFERSON

1a Ridgeway, Wimbledon Common, S.W.18 Oct. 28.

Homeless families

From Mrs. C. K. Bampton

Sir,—Patrick Bampton reports in your today's issue from Halhul (west bank of Jordan) that that village has been blown up by the Israeli army. I am sure that for one Israeli officer was killed there. He says that over 400 people have been rendered homeless, and that more women and children, with winter coming on, have had little time given them to even save their food and furniture.

Does everyone, including many Jews in this country, feel this is an excessive punishment for the life of one man belonging to the army of occupation?

It would be reasonable and to expect the army to fight back with any means at their disposal to regain their country, just as we would do if our land was invaded.

Jews have found homes in countries all over the world; should they not be the ones to have the right to live for the Arabs of the Holy Land?

I am, Sir, yours, etc.

N. M. BAMPTON
The Croft House, Blagdon, Stirlingshire
Oct. 28.

Letters to the Editor

Palestinians Under Occupation: Reports of Oppression

From Mr. Tom Little

Sir—I agree with your leader on Saturday that we Fair Trial lawyers are a special people able to avoid the abuses common to occupying powers when defending refugees.

I would add that the reports of a good journalist are evidences in themselves; and as I know Mr. Hodgkin (article, October 28) to be a man of sufficient experience and integrity, I do not think his words can lightly be set aside merely by repeating that there is no proof.

Unfortunately there is a great deal. A very substantial dossier was prepared in the course of the International Law Studies in Beirut. It is available to anyone who wants to see it and records cases of torture, beatings, maiming and women who have suffered torture, imprisonment without trial, destruction of their homes and expulsion from their country, as well as people who have been killed since the June war. I suggest that your people would consider this dossier to be incriminating because it is Arab evidence, although I do not know who can stand witness to the surviving victims.

But there is corroboration from Israel that are other public places also in that there are those who abhor violence and the abuse of power.

The *Haaretz* of October 25, 1967, quoted children, by Israeli front guards at Kafra Qum on October 25, 1967, only because they had been unable to find Israeli newspaper pressure for the names of the 11 guards responsible. They were found guilty, but their sentences were whitened down by technical precision, partial pardons and amnesties and the like. One of the 11 guards had been found guilty of killing 43 Arabs in an hour, was, on his release in 1968, given a job as a "guard" in the responsible for Arab Affairs in Ramle.

So far as I know there has not been any public statement by the 11 who killed 15 Arabs in almost identical circumstances at Kfar Qum near Khan Yunis on November 29, 1967. The Israeli newspaper Haaretz reported on October 12, 1967, that two Arabs had been killed by the 11, but the paper and it has never been suggested that they were or had any connection with the *Haaretz* or so on.

There is ample evidence from Israeli and Arab-Arab sources that demagogic statements take place on a regular basis required to punish the associates of Al-Fatah. Mr. Hodgkin has rightly deplored the fact. On the Arab side, when the fighting was finished, he justified the killing of Arab civilians on the ground that Arab civilians had taken part in the war, and in an interview with the *Telegraph* on October 27, 1967, October 8, 1968, he said the policy was intended "as a warning to all Arab families in the West Bank."

In other words, it is a large-scale deterrent. In Jerusalem it is a large-scale deterrent—resembling the atomic bomb in its power.

You are right. "There are no nations in the world whose actions are wholly good. There is certainly no government which is fit to be trusted without the constant watchful eye of a careful and honest reporting."

Yours truly,
TOM LITTLE

Manor Cottage, Whitchurch-on-Thames, Reading, Berkshire, Nov. 2.

From Miss Saida Anwar Nusseibeh

Sir—As a Palestinian woman who has suffered and witnessed human rights abuses during the occupation, I would like to thank you for congratulating Mr. Hodgkin (October 28) on his fair reporting of the situation in occupied Palestine.

I took part in the women's demonstration in Jerusalem in April 1968, protesting against the military prison where women were held during their hunger strike. The United Nations resolution was to demand the release of the detainees. The military signed the document of the demand to the military governor. On October 28, 1968, we were beaten with sticks, batons, kicking us with anything they could find. One woman was severely punched in the stomach with an ampoule. We were then arrested, told we were not to speak to anyone, and I was taken separately to an underground cell and interrogated for three hours in a 48ft system.

There was subsequently another demonstration by more women to obtain our release, and they were similarly treated.

Two of us were wounded at 9.30 that morning, some seriously, were offered water at 3pm that afternoon. We were numbered, and our photographs taken for future use against us.

Later I was summoned for trial, but I had already left Jerusalem.

Yours truly,
SAIDA NUSSEIBEH,
45 Chesterfield Gardens, S.W.1, Oct. 30.

Amnesty report

From Mr. Dennis Walters

Sir—Mr. Ed. Korman writes (October 28): "The last report of Amnesty International said that Israeli prison conditions are quite in order, with no evidence of torture."

In fact the Amnesty International report has not yet been published as discussions are still continuing with the Israeli government about a follow-up inquiry. The United Nations has been asked about submitting our report to their committee of experts.

We know that there is no evidence of ill-treatment within Israeli prisons administered by the Israeli Prison Commission, but there is no room for after-torture or trial." This clearly omits reference to ill-treatment of detainees in military custody. At no stage have we said that there was no proof of torture.

We would, of course, welcome any evidence which Mr. Hodgkin can give us.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN ENNALS, Secretary
General, Amnesty International,
Turnagain Annex, Finsbury Street,
E.C.A. 26.

Accumulated evidence

From Mr. David Holden

Sir—Invariably, some of your correspondents are outraged by Mr. Hodgkin's account of Israeli "torture" in West Bank. I am sure, naturally, they think him guilty, callous or malicious. May I just, however, point out that my account of my own impressions derive from a similar visit to the West Bank as much as from any other source.

The Sunday Times in November, 1967?

Like Mr. Hodgkin, I reported an fact stories of torture, beatings, beatings, expulsions, etc., which had either been witnessed or able to check to my satisfaction. I did not make any statements in matters where doubt still seemed possible. Like him, I was dubious.

Yet in two years, as far as I know, no one has ever denied my facts. In a few words, and in most of the apparently doubtful matters evidence has steadily accumulated to show that my qualifications were sound. I have not had to retract a word. When the last of the cases has died, I will date say Mr. Hodgkin will find himself equally vindicated.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HOLDEN,
London, W.C.1, Oct. 30.

In detention

From Mrs. Christopher Walker

Sir—Since your correspondence (Miss Kaufman and Oakes October 29) went evidence of Israeli torture, perhaps I could add a few more sources. I would like to make one observation first: evidence of torture is usually difficult to prove as corroborative. This was recognized at Nuremberg; of the evidence that concerned the Nazis, over 90 per cent came from the victims.

I was in Israel and the occupied territories in May 1968, and the relatives of detainees I talked to consist of those who had been imprisoned in the past, and those still in prison. The most recent, a 20-year-old boy who had been captured last October near Ramallah, The government on April 28 of this year, after it they were initially held in Ramallah, released the relatives saw them there once and said they were in good health. Then they were moved to another prison, and he was detained in a defiant manner, emphasising that they were Palestinians and refusing to recognize the legality of

the Israeli judgment, or of Israel itself. Their relatives first saw them in Aishkelon on May 9, and noted that an appalling change had come over them; the boy was gaunt, pale, listless and badly bruised; another could hardly speak, but pointed in a vague manner to his head, and said he could no longer hear in his hearing. The personalities of all seemed utterly changed—but not destroyed.

With such a terrible and sudden physical and mental change it is impossible to say whether the boy is still alive, tortured, moreover, after trial and conviction.

Their relatives were not long to live; the distress and suffering on their faces was almost more poignant than their own words.

Yours etc.,
CHRISTOPHER WALKER,
9 Margaretta Terrace, S.W.3, Oct. 30.

Systematic policy

From Mr. Dennis Walters, Conservative M.P. for Walthamstow

Sir—Your Foreign Editor has performed a very valuable service by redressing credence in the integrity and objectivity of the news reports from within Israel and Israeli occupied territories. It was necessary, if depressing, to read the reports from Israel a year in which the news from Israel had been used by a small number of people.

In July, I made an extensive visit to the east bank of Jordan and a look at the West Bank, Jordanian areas and wrote an article in *The Times* in which I described the repressive Jordanian regime and seen the terrible, the bulldozed houses, watched the refugees being herded and bulldozed as they were, and spoken to many objective witnesses who had recounted innumerable acts of violence and torture. For two years this systematic policy of repression has continued, and it is time that it stopped. The people of the West Bank allowed to get away with conduct which would be regarded as intolerable if perpetrated by a foreign power.

An Israeli candidate in the Jerusalem elections recently told me that visiting foreign Parliamentarians were used upon as the most gullible of people, and that he had read Mr. Oakes' letter by Gordon Oakes confirms this attitude.

I am often asked the accuracy of the reports of the Israeli torturers and refers mainly to slum clearance. He may be right, but the front page of *The Times* of October 27, 1967, and the front page of *The Sunday Times* of October 27, 1968, and read the accompanying text. It has been happening all the time.

Yours faithfully,
DENNIS WALTERS
House of Commons, Oct. 29

Ultimate victims

From Mr. Cecil Holden

Sir—This has been a black week for the Israeli and Zionist public relations machine in England. On Monday, October 29, 1968, *The Sunday Times* on its front page the report from Patrick Brogan (who no one has hitherto accused of being a Zionist) concerning the destruction of an entire Arab village by the Israeli army in retaliation for the killing of a Israeli soldier.

Scenes from the destroyed village were shown on television the same evening. The following day an editorial in *The Times* traced with clarity the connection between the massacre and the recent raid on the frontier, and the fact that there over the frontier sits Israel, waiting to exploit to the full all the quarrels and conflicts of the Arab world.

On Tuesday Mr. Hodgkin published in the centre page of *The Times* the most powerful and convincing account of the first record as an occupier yet to be printed in the British press. On the same day, *The Sunday Times* published another black cat out of the bag in the column of *The Times* when he wrote that the 1967 massacre of the inhabitants of the first Arab town had been moved out before their homes were destroyed but that the inhabitants had been left still in their beds in the early hours of the morning when grenades were tossed on to the roofs of their houses.

Another building had been systematically razed to the ground. In an adjacent area the walls and roofs of the houses had been completely destroyed, apparently by explosives and fire.

The refugees told me that this had been done in reprisal for the throwing of a grenade against an Israeli military vehicle. The inhabitants of the town of the first Arab town had been moved out before their homes were destroyed but that the inhabitants had been left still in their beds in the early hours of the morning when grenades were tossed on to the roofs of their houses.

But perhaps the biggest setback to the Zionist cause was the letter of protest from Mr. Kaufman and Mr. Gordon Oakes published this morning which used the words "one-sided" and

"slanders" to describe Mr. Hodgkin's article. Do the Zionists and their friends have a monopoly on truth? Must the British Press publish only stories from the Israeli side? News coming from Israel only filter into the net of the Israeli correspondents who are not allowed to write for papers and news media outside that territory?

They should never forget—and this advice I address to the Israeli and Zionist publicists in particular—that the ultimate victims of public relations campaigns which are not based on facts are the people who write them, who care they are meant to promote illusions about the real nature of the conflict. The real illusions of the Arabs will not help the Israeli; their best friends are those who tell the truth about the conflict. The Times for all the cats it is letting out of the bag?

CECIL HOLDEN
London, N.W.3, October 29

Harsh pattern

From Mr. John Reddaway

Sir—At the time of the 1967 war in the Middle East I was serving as Deputy Commissioner—General of the UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees) and continued in this post throughout the period of the conflict. During this period my task took me every two or three weeks to Gaza and the West Bank as well as to the Jordanian areas and the free world.

An Israeli candidate in the Jerusalem elections recently told me that visiting foreign Parliamentarians were used upon as the most gullible of people, and that he had read Mr. Oakes' letter by Gordon Oakes confirms this attitude.

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Yours faithfully,
JOHN REDDAWAY,
19 Woodlyne, Sydenham Hill, S.E.28,
Oct. 31.

Israel 'Thorn in U.S., U.K. Flesh

Nutting Urges Support for Commandos

Anthony Nutting, a prominent British politician and one of the special advisors to the British queen, gave a talk in Beirut on his image of the Palestine problem, on November 7, 1969.

Nutting held many official British posts, the last of which was minister of state for foreign affairs in the government of Anthony Eden from which he resigned in 1956 in protest at his country's involvement in the tripartite Suez Canal aggression.

The British attitude toward the Middle East has undergone a remarkable change in terms of its official application, both at home and over Suez. But fundamentally it has not changed and continues as always to do its best to further the advancement of British interests wherever these may be located. Thus while Britain continues to insist that there can exist no influence in the Gulf — and there is much controversy about this — the attitude set out by the present government for Britain's worldwide, the British continue to control the areas where — with their decisive as an imperial power — they feel that their own interests are not directly involved or threatened and where they know they longer exercise the influence which some Palestinians live today. But this does not mean that the British or the Americans or the British government do not care about the wrongs they have done, or the wrongs they have done, of their own free will. History has sadly enough shown that the British are not such rulers; and so far at least the meek have not inherited the earth. And so far as ever will back Palestine by leaving it to somebody else to do the job for them.

Even the question of reopening the Suez Canal does not concern government and in Britain as it did in '56. For with the exception of supertanker, the oil supply for British industry can be brought by the Suez Canal, the Suez Canal, of course. Britain is prepared to take an initiative now and then and in the U.N. and the Security Council to bring lines of a settlement of the Palestinian Conflict. The U.N. Resolution of November 1967 was a good example of this.

There has also been a certain anxiety that the Palestinian Conflict could explode into a wider struggle and at times has been reflected up across the Jordan or the Suez Canal there has been a certain amount of British press, but after the June '67 War passed without the two super-powers physically clashing. And so far as ever less fear that the Palestinian struggle might lead to a third war and the British government has been able to continue to relax its efforts and to justify its inaction by the fact that it is in conflict with another party to the conflict and may and cannot match that of America or Russia.

Such was the picture presented by Israeli and Zionist propaganda until the emergence of the Palestinian Resistance began to break British幻想. First came the picture that it is up to the Palestinians in particular and the Arab World to get rid of the Jews. And trymen that they should take such a positive stand. Second, let me say that Britain — and France too — can exercise the direct influence upon this

such. They can only seek to induce America to fulfil the responsibilities and to discharge the duties with their power and influence that it has in its relationship with Israel have placed in her hands.

But this breakthrough with Britain's opinion has been reflected by an intermittent but growing series of news and feature articles and editorials and radio discussions which have drawn attention to the plight and suffering of their homeland. Even some Jews have felt moved to condemn Israel's activities. And last week in an article by E.C. Hodgkin on Israeli repressions on the British stage, he has presented an important stage front. And the subsequent correspondence in the Times has shown that unlike a few years ago, when the overpriced Zionists there is today someone who is ready to condemn Israel's cruelty whether it be in the case of the Jewish South Africans or any other oppressive regime,

real issue, to show that the Palestinians were fighting back and what they were fighting for, and what the world was fighting for. And Israeli and Zionist propaganda could not longer claim without visible damage to its credibility that the little courageous Israel was only struggling to survive against the threats of the world's big powers, like, for example, Metz, the most brilliant broomstick and fly around the world proclaiming that there never was a people like the Palestinians but she can no longer get away with this for the young men and women of the Palestine Resistance. And the world's Resistance is there to give her the lie direct,

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experience with resistance movements in the Second World War there are three golden rules which should be observed. One is number one, do not waste them in heroic but hopeless ventures. Two, never attack on too wide a front and do not let your enemies know what you can cope with or draw into the struggle against your neutrals. Who can damage your cause more than your neutrals? And three, whatever they may offer and whatever the temptations may be to attack their neutrals, do not let them cooperate with the supporting armies and maintain the closest relations and understandings with your neutrals and their peoples. I will only say that all these three rules called from the experience of the British Army are highly applicable in the case of the Palestinian Resistance. To say more would distract from the point which I must clearly avoid. Finally, on presenting a United Front, I can only say that one of the most important things which your friends face in arguing your case in Britain arises from the British attitude which from time to time misleads themselves within the Arab body politic. During once again the last few days, for example, I agreed to forward their position on the ideological differences and to band together — Conservative and Communists.

In the greater cause of liberation, is it, I would ask, still not possible to create from the various elements of the Arab Resistance an effective Arab high command in which the different governments can co-operate with Palestinians to plan and train and mobilize their various resources? Let me say to you, in the words of a famous English parliamentarian, Edmund Burke, "When bad men combine, the world may tremble; old men will perish in an unprofitable sacrifice in a contemptible struggle."

Now I know and I know that it is only by unity that you can hope to bring about victory in Palestine. It is only through unity that you can hope to show

the world that you are a power to be reckoned with.

Let me conclude by saying that I shall speak with you in your strength to the extent that I may. If I may adapt a phrase from President Kennedy when he was in Britain a few years ago and proclaimed that he was a Berliner, I should like to say that in this same spirit I am a Palestinian. Nor am I, by any means unique, for you have a growing number of friends in my country who will find and answer your battle against ignorance, prejudice and indifference. But it is a hard and difficult fight, for these three essentials are deeply embedded in the British attitude toward the Middle East.

What you can, in the interests of time, emphasize is this attitude, I am certain. For when I look back to 1967 and compare the press, television and radio to day with those last days of malice and misunderstanding it is truly remarkable how far we have come. And I hope how many individual Britishers will now stand up and be counted as your friends. But you need more friends. And so I will still small select bunch that we have added to our number if you are in contact with your government and parliament to let them realize that their interests in the Middle East are wider than a division between Britain and France in the Gulf and that they should at long last actively work for a just settlement to the conflict.

You can help us to win such friends to your cause. And so I say to you all my heart, give us the shewers of your success. And I hope that you are really united in your struggle, that behind the banner of the slogan lies a firm and flexible determination to go on to victory, however long the journey; show us that the spirit of God is still abroad with all its courage in combat and all its compassion in victory. And we shall go forward together and an ever widening circle of your friends and allies — to right the wrongs of the past, to wipe away the sins of the past, to lay the present, to create for the future — in sight and in the image of God — a land of brotherhood and justice and of peace,



ANTHONY NUTTING

But sympathy is not enough, what the Palestinians need is support, and I would like to make some observations over their suffering. How do you turn negative sympathy into positive support? First, by your friends — and you — and your friends — cannot make bricks without straw and cannot build a wall without hawks a constant loss. Second, by organizing and coordinating your resistance against Israel, by your friends — and you — and your friends — not only to Israel, but to the world at large, to show that the Arabs are a power to be reckoned with, not to be ignored.

Let me explain each of these three requirements in greater detail. What the Arabs need, what we your friends need, to make our bricks with is success, but not only success but a series of successes which the enemy can only conceive. Second, by your friends — and you — and your friends — can better training and real cooperation and coordination among the resistance groups themselves and between them and the supporting Arab armies. This is going to be a long haul requiring a great deal of time. And always happens in war, frequently narrowing effort. From my own

Guns, All Guns Toward The Enemy

Zionist Elections

The Zionists voted for a new parliament and government. Sixteen parties vied for the votes of 1,750,000 electors.

In the present atmosphere of tension, the enemy settlers dropped their ballots into bullet and shell-proofed steel boxes. The Zionist occupation authorities were taking no chance over possible commando attempts to sabotage the elections. As part of the security measures, the pre-June war borders were closed to prevent Palestinian Arabs from moving

into the area occupied in 1948.

Following are samples of contradictory statements delivered by enemy statesmen during the election campaigns:

Israeli deputy premier Yigal Allon told British Zionist leaders conferring in Tel Aviv October 30th that Israel must continue to establish settlements in strategically important areas. Justifying the establishment of new settlements in occupied Sinai, Allon claimed that "We (Israelis) have as much right to the Sinai as Egypt." He added that by not establishing settlements Israel would be drawing a minimum map of itself!

Addressing an election rally in Beersheba on October 20th, Golda Meir declared that Syria's acceptance to the security council has strengthened Israel's resolve not to rely on the United Nations. "The United Nations is no longer an objective and just organization dealing with the problems of the world, and with ours in particular."

Speaking to an election rally in south Palestine October 20th, Moshe Dayan called for the inclusion of all

Arab-Americans Acquitted in Flag Fire Case

NEW YORK - Three Arab-Americans who burned an Israeli flag outside the Israel U.N. mission here last April 12, were acquitted Oct. 30 in New York criminal court of a charge of lighting an open fire in a public place.

The three men, including Mohammed Mehdi, Secretary General of the Action Committee on Arab American Relations, burned the flag on the 21st anniversary of the Zionist massacre at the village of Deir Yassin of 254 Palestinian Arabs, including 145 women of whom 35 were pregnant.

The men still face charges of disorderly conduct arising from the same incident which will be heard sometime in November.

Judge John J. Brickley ruled that the charge against the three of creating an open fire without a permit should be dismissed because the law prohibiting open fires was indefinite as to what types of fires were unlawful.

ISRAEL ORGANIZES ANTI-COMMANDO PATROLS IN JERUSALEM, TEL AVIV

JERUSALEM - "Volunteer anti-commando patrols" are being organized by Zionists in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv following Fateh's recent wave of bomb explosions which wrecked houses in Haifa.

Fateh's bomb blasts in residential Haifa Oct. 22-23 were meant as a warning against continuation of Zionist policy of blowing up houses of civilian Palestinians.

It was officially announced here Oct. 26 that police would help the Zionist volunteers, who will patrol streets and watch for "suspicious movements and objects."

occupied Arab lands into Israel. He said Egypt's Sharm-el-Sheikh and Syria's Golani Heights were needed as "strategic security boundaries." The enlarged country (Israel) should stretch from the Golani Heights in the north to the tip of the Sinai Peninsula in the south stated Dayan.

While on a trip to Paris, David Ben Gurion said October 25th that he favored the return of all occupied Arab territories, except for occupied Jerusalem and the Syrian Golani Heights, to bring about a peaceful settlement with the Arab countries. "In my view, if there is a possibility of having peace with Egypt, then we should return all the Sinai territories, including the Tiran Straits," declared Ben Gurion.

Israeli Singer Killed by Egyptian Fire

TEL AVIV - A 25-year-old singer-comedian called Fefer was listed Oct. 21 as the first Israeli entertainer to die under Egyptian fire while performing for occupation troops in Sinai.

Fefer -- real name Aryeh Feldman -- was known for leading Zionist demonstrations against France.

The comedian was doing his weekly turn for Zionist occupation troops on Oct. 20 when an Egyptian mortar shell landed behind the impromptu stage. He died of his wounds a few hours later.

Bonn to Try Israeli

BONN - Bonn justice gave the go-ahead for the trial of an Austro-Israeli lawyer accused of a multimillion mark fraud against the West German government.

Accused is Prof. H. Deutsch, 65-year-old specialist in "reparations claims" against the Germans by Israel.

Deutsch was arrested in 1964 on charges on defrauding West Germany of 17.6 million marks (about 4.4 million U.S. dollars) in a reparations claim on behalf of beneficiaries under the will of the late Hungarian "Sugar Baron" Ferenc Hatzky Deutsch who is also accused of incitement to perjury.

Deutsch, bailed out against two million marks (\$500,000 dollars) after 16 months, is believed to be living at present at Lausanne.

No date has yet been set for the trial.

Israel Clamps Curfew to Hunt Arabs in Hebron

JERUSALEM - Israeli occupation troops looking for Palestinian commandos, clamped a curfew for a few hours on occupied Hebron Nov. 2.

In the latest in a series of commando actions, an Israeli patrol was ambushed the night of Nov. 1 north of Hebron. Three soldiers were wounded and two have since died, a military spokesman said here.

Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan visited Hebron Nov. 2 accompanied by senior army officers.

The curfew in Hebron was imposed at daybreak and was lifted in the late morning hours as occupation forces continued their search.

Hebron, south of Jerusalem, with a population of about 40,000, has been the scene of continual resistance during recent months, with a succession of Israeli punitive measures following various commando and resistance actions.

In September the Israeli military government imposed a series of restrictions limiting trade and travel from the Hebron area to both Israel and Jordan following an increasing wave of commando activity.

The restrictions seriously hit the area's economy which depends on the export of its fruit and agricultural produce.

An economic siege was imposed on Hebron for the first time on Sept. 19 following mounting Palestinian resistance in the area, including an attempt on the life of the military governor, Lt. Col. Ofer Ben David. The harsh clampdown ended Oct. 3. But 12 hours later, the occupied town was slapped with another unlimited curfew and 29 arrests by the Zionist occupation army on charges that a grenade was thrown at Zionist settlers in the streets but failed to explode.

Another 12-hour dusk to dawn curfew was imposed on the occupied town Oct. 19 in retaliation for an attack on an Israeli military vehicle.

On Nov. 2, also, two Israeli soldiers were wounded according to a Tel Aviv spokesman when a grenade was tossed at a military vehicle in occupied Gaza.



